



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,707	01/02/2004	Joel W. Pfister	S522.12-0012	3806

164 7590 10/05/2004  
KINNEY & LANGE, P.A.  
THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING  
312 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415-1002

EXAMINER

WEINHOLD, INGRID M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3632

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/750,707

Applicant(s)

PFISTER, JOEL W.

Examiner

Ingrid M Weinhold

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 January 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/15/04, 5/3/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Election/Restrictions***

There are a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising:

- 1) Figures 1A-C
- 2) Fig 13A-D
- 3) Fig 14A-C
- 4) Fig 14D-F
- 5) 16A-J
- 6) 18A-B
- 7) 19A-B
- 8) 20A-D

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed. Currently there is no generic claim to all the species.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

During a telephone conversation with Mike Pape on 9/7/04 a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of species 6, claims 1-4.

Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because:

- 1) Page 5, line 3, the term “adjustable” should be --adjust--, and the term --of-- should be inserted directly after the term “position”.
- 2) Page 5, line 15, reference numeral “28” should be --26--.
- 3) Page 8, line 8, the term “busing” should be --bushing--.
- 4) Page 9, lines 16 and 17, the Figure number “13C” should be --13D--.
- 5) Page 10, line 19, the Figure number “16H” should be --16J--.
- 6) Page 10, line 24, the Figure number “17D” should be --17C--.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to because in Figure 3C, reference numeral “22” should be --24--. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the

Art Unit: 3632

drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DeBruyn (4,720,198). DeBruyn shows a wall plate (14), a mount plate (13), an articulated linkage between the wall plate and mount plate including a plurality of support elements (15 and 16), and a plurality of adjustable drag tapered bearings each pivotable around a separate axis. The bearings include a tapered spindle (36), a tapered bore (28) and a means for providing an adjustable axial force (45) between the spindle and bore to control friction.

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Sakai	U.S. Patent	4,882,959
Elbert	U.S. Patent	5,306,093
Kida	U.S. Patent	6,381,808 B1
Chang	U.S. Patent	6,116,806
Maughan	U.S. Patent	6,146,045
Smith, Jr.	U.S. Patent	5,312,199
Oddsens, Jr. et al.	U.S. Patent	6,619,606 B2


The above patents all show various tapered bearings.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid M Weinhold whose telephone number is 703-306-5762. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Tues 5:30AM - 4:00PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leslie Braun can be reached on 703-308-2156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Ingrid M Weinhold  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3632  
09/28/04

  
RAMON O. RAMIREZ  
PRIMARY EXAMINER